

**Hypocriey.**  
Senator JOHN SHERMAN said in the United States Senate Thursday that he desired to discuss the questions about counting the presidential vote "calmly and dispassionately." We doubt the fact. Senator SHERMAN, we believe, desires no such thing, or he could be a sincere patriot, which he is not. He is only a bitter and insincere partisan. It is impossible for him to be "dispassionate," which means free from prejudice and malice. In his speech he pharisaically felicitated himself that the Republicans were "quiet, calm, and serene." Not one of which they are; for those who are not ashamed of the wrongs committed in the name of republicanism and the usurpations of the ruthless Republican President, but are bitter and angry, as are all animals bent on outrage.

The hypocritical Senator tauntingly charged that the Democrats in his own State had appealed to "popular prejudice," and he begged the press to "make no threats or menaces." Pious man! The party heads feeds on popular prejudices against the subjugated people he is ever seeking to wrong; and he owes his seat to the same prejudices, to that bigotry which is the light of his mind. Does he not know that the Republican Executive is a monumental threat and menace? and that every measure of President GRANT and his legal adviser and his ruthless Cabinet looks to the paralyzing of law and usage, and the prolongation of Radical rule by violence? Threat, indeed! General Grant holds that the great majority of the people of the United States are worse than rebels. He is concentrating forces and ammunition at points convenient for his use according to his views of his duty; and that, as plainly as the sun at noonday, must be in antagonism to those he thinks are worse than those who are subjugated. And these constitute a vast majority of the people of the United States. They are protected by the laws and the Constitution; but to get at them the Federal Executive has no scruple in overriding Constitution and law. And this Executive is the representative of the Republican party, and has so declared himself in his official annual message to the Congress of the United States!

Threat, indeed! Senator SHERMAN so constructs the public censure of the Republican usurpations. He appealed to the public to make no such "threats"; that is to submit quietly to tyrants—to the substitution of force for Constitution and law. A marvellous proper senator and defender of the people! He will approve anything, no matter how violent, that will prolong the rule of his party.

**Mr. Conkling.**  
The brief introductory "overture" to the New York memorial performed by Senator CONKLING in the United States Senate on Thursday was melodious and gentle, but we would rather have the opera. We know that Senator CONKLING has ability, but we know that he did not separate from the leaders of his party in the reconstruction measures and the illiberal ideas upon which they were based—nay, including the infidelities relating to the question of race. The memorial of the New York bankers is in its generalization about fairness, law, and Constitution, and all that, a very proper document; but we cannot well tell what its signers would do if they had to settle the question. We never saw a Republican yet who did not think all GRANT'S usurpations were proper; and even GRANT, when he turned towards the South and begged leading men to go down there, did he not avow his determination to be to have "a fair" and "honest" count; and did he not in advance demand any man who would occupy the presidential chair by "fraud"? He was a hero in the defence of "honesty"; he marched soldiers to the South to maintain "honesty" by force. And have we not seen that the very reverse was his object, and that all his virtuous protestations were a mere farce?

Now, we think better of Mr. CONKLING than of GRANT. He has been raised a gentleman. But he has been in very bad company, and he has sustained some bad measures. We credit him for his fair overture, and await, we admit, hopefully for the practical explanation of his general creed.

**Befooling His Own Nest.**  
Mr. Senator SHERMAN, in his speech in the United States Senate on Thursday, said the result of the twenty-second rule in Mexico "was worse than that of any rule in Mexico." Senator TRUMBULL, of Illinois, in his speech in Chicago on Saturday last, made the following allusion to the twenty-second rule:

The committee which reported the twenty-second rule was appointed in January, 1865, and consisted of Trumbull, Conners, and Wright on the part of the Senate, and of Stephens, Elihu B. Washburn, Mallory, Henry Winter Davis, and Cox on the part of the House. The joint rule was considered by unanimous consent, and agreed to by both houses February 6, 1865, and the electoral votes cast in 1864, 1865, and 1872 were counted in pursuance of that rule, which was considered in force without being re-elected, and without objection, except that of Georgia, rule was modified by a concurrent resolution offered by Mr. Edmunds, and adopted in both houses February, 1869, in regard to the electoral vote of the State of Georgia. Mr. Edmunds's resolution, which asserted the power of Congress over the national vote, and disposed of that of Georgia, was voted for in the Senate by Edmunds, Anthony, Cameron, Conkling, Frelinghuysen, Morrill of Maine, Morrill of Vermont, Sherman, and most of the leading men now in the Senate.

We rather think that if any one has said that there is not so invidious a man in Mexico as Senator SHERMAN he would have been very near the truth.

**General Grant.**  
"GATE" is no doubt right. President GRANT has "an invincible prejudice against rebels"; but he has a stronger one against northern Democrats who he has declared in his official message are "worse than rebels." His mind has been biased by lending a willing ear to negroes and carpet-baggers from the South, and, worse still, the traitors to their friends and compatriots at the South, who seek to make soft places for themselves by maligning their brethren. These people have poisoned his mind, and the bad stimulants and the bad leaders of northern Radicalism have given activity to his prejudices. "GATE" is right in saying: "the country will do well to let him retire; for there is no more dangerous character 'in public life.'"

We acknowledge the receipt of copies of Senator J. H. MITCHELL'S speeches recently made in the United States Senate on the Oregon question. They were sent by the Senator himself.

**Commodore Vanderbilt's Death.**

The death of Commodore VANDERBILT was announced in yesterday's telegrams in the Dispatch. And a very remarkable man he was. He rose from poverty to wealth to a wealth greater than was ever acquired by any other man in the land. Astor's and Stewart's property was of a more solid character, VANDERBILT'S being much—indeed, the most of it—in railroad stocks. The history of this vast accumulation would not be uninteresting. The energy and sagacity that were displayed in it were extraordinary; but equal amounts of integrity and justice from it we could hardly expect. We may safely assume that millions are hardly ever accumulated by one man in a manner altogether guiltless. Money is too apt to inspire a disposition not consistent with even-handed justice, nor with kindness and liberality towards employees. Especially in the speculative enterprises through which Commodore VANDERBILT acquired his immense fortune are the arts and schemes for gain liable to trench upon right and honor—upon the proverb, "Do unto others as you would they should do unto you."

We rather think that JOHN JACOB ASTOR'S wealth was more properly amassed than was that of any other of the millionaires. He was an enterprising merchant, and his gains from the foreign commerce and from the intrepid hunt for furs afforded satisfaction and *edification*. His great source of wealth was the enhancement of his real property in New York. STAMPAUT also acquired much in the same way; but then, he was a grasping monopolist and an unrelenting creditor. VANDERBILT was a civil sort of pirate on the waters and on the land—a great "runner-off" of steam-lines—a "great receiver" of bonuses to let men alone in their enterprises—a great "cornerer" of railroad stocks—and he is remembered for some destructive wars upon steamboat enterprises, many hard bargains that wrecked some very enterprising persons, and shrewd cornering that by turns played both "bulls" and "bears." His defence might have been that the waters and the stock-boards were free, and others had the same right to injure him. This is the argument of the gambler, that he is sharper and plays better than his antagonists.

It is hard for a life of speculation and speculative adventure to be guiltless of moral transgression, and we do not suppose that the Commodore stopped long to think about this matter. Like the man in the hen-house, he considered that "a great moral question," and called for another chicken. He was an impetuous hero, who was not to be impeded by "crifiles."

Commodore VANDERBILT, in the war, made a magnificent present to the Government—a steamboat valued at \$800,000; but we suspect that told the story of how a sharp steamboat-captain had profited by the Government. It was not wholly the impulse of patriotism.

The Commodore, it is just to say, displayed the virtues of frugality and energy in a very high degree. In the evening of his days he manifested a jovial disposition and creditable instances of liberality, which showed him to be infused with a goodly share of humanity. Indeed, we think his better nature cropped out in even his dissipation, his *dislike* and geniality around the euche and bag-tables. But he was still the hero of financial wars and steamboat wars, in which disasters were great, and from which distresses were widespread.

He had "a better nature" evidently, and the feeling for his memory is more kind than that towards STAMPAUT'S. But, after all, what a lesson the death of such a man teaches the world. He meets the common fate, and carries of all his wealth no more out of this world than is buried with the body that has lain in the morgue for that recognition which never came. His career ends, and his contemporaries and his competitors all go to the tomb with him. Is it not the honor, the integrity, the justice of men only that "smell sweet and blossom in the dust"?

**The Clifton Forge Improvement.**  
The Senate bill authorizing the employment of the convicts of the penitentiary on the railroad from Buchanan to Clifton Forge is now before the House. It is a bill of decided importance, and should receive the prompt attention of the House. We see by practical results the pressure of transportation from the West, and Virginia will give facility to the movement of this immense commerce. This improvement of the James-river line of transportation will strike the Ohio and Chesapeake railroad just beyond the sharp grades east of the Allegheny mountains, and there give facility to a great amount of transportation which the Chesapeake and Ohio railroad can bring thus far and no farther. That alone is motive enough to induce the building of the road from Buchanan to Clifton Forge.

But there is the added and still greater motive: the opening and working of the rich James-river mines of iron and other metals. The working of these mines, and the converting of their ores into money, will add largely to the sources of revenue as well as to the wealth of the community. It is vital to Virginia that in her embarrased condition she should increase her sources of revenue, and this work will add to them.

The convicts in the penitentiary are oppressed and suffering from overcrowding. It is a matter of humanity to relieve them, and in no way can they do more for Virginia, and more in the way of penance, than by working on the public works. The penitentiary, we fear, has done little in the way of reformation; and the convicts would do something for the public good by working upon this road, and that would be some compensation to the community for their transgressions.

The bill is eminently worthy of legislative approval. It is good for the State that it should pass.

**Silver a Legal Tender.**

We are glad to see that the New York Chamber of Commerce has expressed itself in favor of silver as a legal tender. The expedient of demonetizing silver was unwise and impractical. It is a precious metal, and may be regarded as a solid foundation for circulation. Excluding it diminishes the basis of the paper medium, and that only increases the scarcity of the means for commerce and enterprise. Silver is an excellent thing for the people. It may be carried about the person in sufficient quantities for change. It is a great improvement upon the greasy and vulgar shillings that are worn and ruined by handling, to the loss of the people. The demonetization of silver cripples it, and its restoration to credit will be a popular measure. It will do much public good and hurt no interest that ought to be cherished.

What the Halifax Record quotes from Senator CONKLING has all been reproduced in the Dispatch. It is none the less true, however, that he did in 1872 offer an amendment to a proposition concerning the count-

ing of the electoral vote of one of the States, in which amendment it was distinctly stated that the two houses were present at said counting merely as witnesses.

United States Senators HOWE, OGBURN, WAHLBERG, and McMICHAEL have been junketing in New Orleans with negroes, and with the knaves KELLOGG, PACKARD, and WAGGONER, PRINCE, and ANTONIO. The history of this "ladie" were in brilliant tole, if these northern senators would "tarnize" thus at home there would be at least consistency in their conduct. But what cheats and blackguards they are to behave thus in New Orleans, when they have never so fraternized with blacks at home, and never will!

The Washington Republican is not an organ merely. It is a lyre.

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF VIRGINIA.**

FRIDAY, JANUARY 5, 1877.

**SENATE.**  
The Senate met at 12 M.—Mr. QUINCY, president pro tempore, in the chair. Prayer by Rev. Dr. E. W. Warren, of the First Baptist church.

**REPORTED FROM COMMITTEES.**  
By Mr. FINNEY (from the Committee on Counties, Cities, and Towns): House bills to amend section 5 of an act approved February 10, 1876, "relating to the charter of the town of Edinburg, in Shenandoah county, without amendments." By Mr. CRITCHER (from the Committee on Roads): House bill to authorize the Board of Public Works to sell the State's interest in the Jackson river turnpike company; to incorporate the Norfolk and Brambleton Railroad Company.

**PAY OF LATE DOORKEEPER.**  
Mr. SINKLER presented a resolution instructing the secretary to issue a warrant to the widow of the late Colonel John W. Minor, late doorkeeper of the Senate, for his pay up to the time of his death. Adopted.

**PRESENTED AND REFERRED.**  
By Mr. FINNEY: Bill to prohibit the appropriation of a greater sum than \$3,000 in any year for the purchase of books and works of art for the use of the State Library.

By Mr. SPITLER: Bill to provide for the sale of insolvent claims by fiduciaries.

By Mr. SLEMP: Petition of citizens of Lee county asking that Elizabeth M. Barker be released from a commitment of a fine assessed against her in the court of that county.

By the same: Bill for the relief of Elizabeth M. Barker, of Lee county.

By Mr. DANIEL: Bill to allow commutation to soldiers maimed in war in lieu of artificial limbs.

**PASSED.**  
House bill authorizing the Board of Supervisors of Jacksonburg county to borrow money to build their jail.

To incorporate the Norfolk and Brambleton Railroad Company.

Authorizing the Board of Public Works to sell the State's interest in the Jackson River Turnpike Company.

Senate bill to amend and reenact sections 7 and 10 of chapter 133, in reference to homesteads.

**THE BONDS OF THE CLIFTON FORGE RAILROAD COMPANY.**  
The Chair laid before the Senate a communication from the president of the James River and Kanawha Canal Company in pursuance to a resolution recently adopted by this body, asking how much had been subscribed by that corporation to the Clifton Forge railroad. In this communication Colonel Carrington states that \$4,000 of the \$7,000 of the stock of the Buchanan and Clifton Forge Company have been subscribed by this company, and that they propose to subscribe with their third mortgage bonds, as authorized by the charter of the company. The market value of said mortgage bonds is not known, not having yet been issued. There are no subscriptions of coupons of the first and second mortgage bonds of the James River and Kanawha Canal Company to the stock of said railway company, but \$32,389 of such past-due coupons, and \$26,900 of those to mature, which have been subscribed to the bonds of the Buchanan and Clifton Forge Railroad Company, as authorized by its charter. As to this, the Governor is inclined to do so. Colonel Carrington declines to furnish the names of bondholders.

On motion of Mr. EUBANK, the communication was laid on the table and ordered to be printed.

**SAFE KEEPING OF STATE BONDS.**  
Mr. DUFFIELD presented a resolution requesting the Treasurer to inform the Senate what measures have been taken by him in the execution of the purposes of the joint resolution to provide for the safe keeping of certain bonds of the Commonwealth, adopted April 30, 1874. Agreed to.

**TAKING SHOOTING-GALLERIES.**  
On motion of Mr. ALLAN, the Committee on Finance was requested to consider the propriety of engraving in the tax-bill for the present year a license-tax upon shooting-galleries.

**CONDITION OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF THE PENITENTIARY.**  
On motion of Mr. CLARKE, Senate joint resolution providing for the appointment of a committee to inquire into the condition of George F. Strother, superintendent of the penitentiary, was taken up.

Mr. GIMBLEY stated that during the holiday recess he had in interview with Colonel Strother's medical attendants—two of whom were of the opinion that his malady was extreme nervous prostration, and that he would soon be able to attend to his official duties. The third physician held an adverse opinion to that expressed by his colleagues. He did not think it would do any harm to permit the assistant superintendent to continue to perform the duties for awhile.

Mr. CLARKE thought that if the penitentiary could do without a superintendent for six months the office could be abolished, and therefore insisted upon the resolution. The joint resolution was adopted.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION.**  
The Senate, at half-past 12 o'clock, resolved itself into executive session to consider a communication from the Board of Public Instruction in relation to county school superintendents. The matter was referred to the Committee on Schools and Colleges.

Adjourned at 1:30 P. M.

**HOUSE OF DELEGATES.**

Speaker HANGER in the chair. No prayer.

**FOLEY'S STATUTE OF JACKSON.**  
The SPEAKER laid before the House a communication from the Governor, giving, in response to a resolution of the House, a detailed account of the reception and execution of the bronze statue of General T. J. Jackson, by Foley, as well as the unpublished correspondence and the itemized expenses in connection therewith. [The total expenditures were \$7,933.62, of which \$7,425.00 was for the pedestal, its foundation, flagging, iron-work, gutters, appurtenances, etc.; \$241.38 was for relating the statue to London and elsewhere; and for the stand used for the inauguration; and the balance of \$267.25 covers the entire cost on account of the guests of the Commonwealth, the procession, etc.] Laid on the table and ordered to be printed.

**BILLS REPORTED.**

To authorize and direct his Excellency the Governor to convert the medal fund donated, through Hon. J. B. B. Beresford, Hope, by the address of General Thomas J. Jackson in Great Britain into outstanding State bonds; to incorporate the Walters' Union of the city of Richmond; to amend the act in relation to the election of commissioners of roads in Louisa county; to amend an act to incorporate the Orkney Springs Company.

**PRESENTED AND REFERRED.**  
By Mr. FLOOD: Bill to reenact section 27

of chapter 133 of the Code of 1870, in regard to petit larceny.

By Mr. DOOLEY: To regulate the docking of causes in the Circuit Court of Richmond city.

By Mr. BERRY: To amend an act providing for appeals from the actions of district school boards in certain cases.

**PUBLIC SCHOOLS.**

Mr. POWELL of Franklin stated that he had been present he would have voted against Mr. GORDON'S amendment to the bill regulating admissions to the public schools, and also against the bill as thus amended.

**REPORT FROM THE COMMITTEE OF FINANCE.**  
A report from the Committee of Finance declaring it inexpedient to legislate upon the subject of issuing separate licenses for the sale of wine, beer, and other non-alcoholic beverages, was concurred in.

**ROYAL LAND COMPANY.**  
The unfinished business of yesterday—the House bill to amend an act relating to the charter of the Royal Land Company of Virginia—was taken up and further discussed.

Mr. SMITH, of Fauquier, addressed the House in opposition to the bill on account of its large grants of power to a foreign company, and because it would divert trade from Virginia cities to Philadelphia.

The discussion was continued by Mr. STARKES on the same side, and by Messrs. STUART, GORDON, and WALLACE in support of the bill.

The bill was then ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, and, on Tuesday, February 13, 1877, it was read a third time, and the House adjourned.

**The Christian and the Saracen.**

[For the Dispatch.]

Messrs. Editors: I have carefully read the remarks of Mr. W. W. Wood in reply to your communication. I had the honor to address you in regard to the interesting yet complicated subject of the Eastern question.

I see no occasion to retract or modify the sentiment I endeavored then to express, and the contest now confined to diplomacy on the one side, and Turkish rule, with its concomitant evils, on the other. Whether I have travelled in Russia or am acquainted with Russian history is hardly the question in debate. The sequel may, perhaps, determine that.

But first, in regard to the state-strate that Mr. Wood, that Russia is actuated not so much by motives of philanthropy as those of conquest, I assume that Mr. Wood has not read a recent communication from the Foreign Office of St. Petersburg to Lord Derby, of the English Foreign Office, and not yet answered by England, which is the idea of conquest on the part of Russia.

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**MEETINGS.**

**AN ADJOURNED MEETING OF THE HOSPITAL BUILDING, LOAN, AND TRUST COMPANY.** For the election of directors for the ensuing year. To be held at the office of the company, No. 6 north Eleventh street. The doors for this month will also be payable on the 12th inst. at the office of the company during the day; also, subscriptions to new shares, which can be had at the office of the company, No. 6 north Eleventh street. J. B. HARRIS, Secretary.

**THERE WILL BE A REGULAR MEETING OF THE OLD VIRGINIA INFANTRY.** For the election of directors for the ensuing year. To be held at the office of the company, No. 6 north Eleventh street. The doors for this month will also be payable on the 12th inst. at the office of the company during the day; also, subscriptions to new shares, which can be had at the office of the company, No. 6 north Eleventh street. J. B. HARRIS, Secretary.

**THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE STOCKHOLDERS OF THIS COMPANY** will be held at the company's office, No. 113 Main street, on TUESDAY, JANUARY 9, 1877, at 12 o'clock. J. B. HARRIS, Secretary.

**THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE STOCKHOLDERS OF THE VIRGINIA ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA** for the election of directors, will be held at the office of the company, No. 6 north Eleventh street, on TUESDAY, JANUARY 9, 1877, at 12 o'clock. J. B. HARRIS, Secretary.

**CITY BANK OF RICHMOND.** The REGULAR ANNUAL MEETING of the stockholders of this bank will be held on MONDAY, JANUARY 8, 1877, at 12 o'clock. J. B. HARRIS, Secretary.

**THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE STOCKHOLDERS OF THIS COMPANY** will be held at the company's office, No. 113 Main street, on TUESDAY, JANUARY 9, 1877, at 12 o'clock. J. B. HARRIS, Secretary.

**THE REGULAR ANNUAL MEETING** of the stockholders of this bank will take place on MONDAY, the 15th of January next, at 5 o'clock P. M. in their hall, No. 113 Main street. J. B. HARRIS, Secretary.

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